



Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Firestone Country Club | Akron, Ohio | July 8-14, 2019

PARTIAL First-Round Notes

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Course Setup: Par 70 / 7,004 yards

Weather: Partly cloudy skies in the morning and storms in the afternoon produced 1.1" of rainfall. High in the mid-80s with wind from the WSW at 10-15 mph.

Note: The first round was suspended at 12:55 p.m. due to thunderstorms in the area and play was suspended for the day at 5:05 p.m. The first round will resume at 7 a.m. Friday.

Media Contacts: [Laura Vescovi](#) (904-465-5924), [Chris Richards](#) (678-644-4258)

	Player	To Par	Thru
1.	Steve Stricker	-5	17
2.	Paul Goydos	-2	5
T3.	Ken Duke	-1	F
T3.	Eight others	-1	-

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-round tee times](#) (Golf Channel coverage: 1:30-4 p.m. ET)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Steve Stricker, 5-under (thru 17)

- Stricker made a hole-in-one on the 182-yard 7th hole with a 7-iron. It was the 15th hole-in-one in tournament history, first of Stricker's career on this Tour, and fifth on PGA TOUR Champions this season.
- One of Stricker's three aces on the PGA TOUR came at the 2011 Memorial Tournament (second round, No. 8), which he went on to win.
- Stricker had four top-10s in nine starts at Firestone Country Club on the PGA TOUR. He had a 69.69 scoring average and 19 of his 36 rounds were in the 60s (best: 64, R4/2012 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational).
- Winner of the Regions Tradition and U.S. Senior Open, Stricker is looking to become the fourth player to win three majors in one season on PGA TOUR Champions (Gary Player/1988, Jack Nicklaus/1991, Bernhard Langer/2017).
- In his two major victories, Stricker made three total bogeys over the 144 holes (1/Regions Tradition, 2/U.S. Senior Open). He has been bogey-free in five of 12 rounds at majors this season, and he was bogey-free through 17 holes on Thursday.
- Entering this week, Stricker led/co-led after seven of the 12 rounds at majors this season.
- In eight starts on PGA TOUR Champions this season, Stricker has two wins and five top-10s and he's No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

First-Round Lead Notes

- This season, a first-round leader/co-leader has won six out of 15 tournaments, including Steve Stricker's win at the U.S. Senior Open.
- Since 1990, the first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win this tournament six times. Most recently, Bernhard Langer led wire-to-wire and won in 2015.

Ken Duke, 34-35 – 69 (-1)

- Duke was one of 15 players that completed his first round on Thursday. He gained entry Thursday morning when Fred Funk withdrew, and he's the only player in the clubhouse with a score under par.
- Duke is one of 17 players in the field that did not play in a PGA TOUR event at Firestone Country Club.
- He has one top-10 in 10 starts (T6, Mitsubishi Electric Classic) and is currently 49th in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Other Notes

- **Tommy Tolles** and **David McKenzie** are T12 after carding rounds of even-par 70.
- Defending champion **Vijay Singh** is 1-over (thru 16). He had six top-10s in 14 starts at Firestone Country Club on the PGA TOUR, including a win at the 2008 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational.
- **Scott McCarron**, winner of the 2017 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship at Caves Valley, is 5-over (thru 16). McCarron has led the Charles Schwab Cup each of the last nine weeks, and his lead has been more than \$400,000 the last five weeks.
- **Bernhard Langer**, the only three-time winner of the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, is even par (thru 6).
- **Fred Couples**, one of five winners of THE PLAYERS Championship in this week's field, is 5-over (thru 16). Winner of the 2011 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS, Couples will be recognized Thursday evening with the 2019 Ambassador of Golf Award, which honors a person who has fostered the ideals of the game on an international level and whose concern for others extends beyond the golf course.